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REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
CONCLUDING DOCUMENT OF THE
TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY: REGIONAL
CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 20 February 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am transmitting herewith a copy of the statement by the guarantor countries of the Protocol of Rio de Janeiro, 1942, on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Itamaraty Peace Declaration of 17 February 1995.

I should be grateful if you would have this note and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under the agenda items entitled "General and complete disarmament: regional disarmament" and "Review and implementation of the concluding document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly: regional confidence-building measures", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Luis VALENCIA RODRIGUEZ
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX*

Statement by the guarantor countries of the Protocol of Rio de Janeiro, 1942, on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Itamaraty Peace Declaration

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On the occasion of the first anniversary of the signing of the Itamaraty Peace Declaration of 17 February 1995, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the guarantor countries of the Protocol of Rio de Janeiro, 1942, Guido di Tella of Argentina, Luiz Felipe Lampreia of Brazil, José Miguel Insulsa of Chile and Warren Christopher of the United States of America, express their satisfaction at the significant progress made towards complete détente in the relations between Ecuador and Peru, aimed at a final solution to the conflict between the two countries.

One year since this solemn commitment entered into force, they note with profound satisfaction that efforts to ensure a peaceful solution have been successful. In the context of the Itamaraty Peace Declaration and under the coordination of the military observers of the guarantor countries, a cease-fire was established in the conflict zone, putting an immediate end to the loss of human lives, and a separation of military forces was put into effect, thereby avoiding the risk of further clashes. Building on this initial peace effort, a process of mutual confidence and good faith was set in motion which is permitting the gradual transfer to the parties of the tasks and responsibilities of the Ecuador-Peru Military Observer Mission (MOMEP), with a view to ensuring, in conjunction with the guarantor countries, peace in the region. On the understanding that MOMEP will be a factor in consolidating this process, the guarantor countries express their full confidence in the Observer Mission and in the procedures agreed to in that body. In this context, they are prepared to consider an eventual request by the parties for the extension, for a limited period, of the presence of military observers.

They recall that a new and decisive phase in the peace process is now beginning which presents its own challenges. They note with satisfaction the spirit of openness which prevailed at the meeting held in Lima on 17 and 18 January 1996 between the Foreign Ministers of Ecuador and Peru, pursuant to the terms of the Itamaraty Peace Declaration. That meeting enabled the parties to discuss their differences, in direct and frank talks, with a view to finding a common and definitive solution.

In recognition of their invaluable contribution in exercising the important responsibilities entrusted to them by the Protocol of Rio de Janeiro, the guarantor countries were invited to take part in the meeting, and, at the request of the parties, Brazil will host the substantive negotiations that are to follow. The guarantor countries emphasize that the performance of these

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* Translator's note: translated from an unofficial Spanish translation.

functions requires that they enjoy autonomy in exercising their full capacity to state their views, in such manner and at such time as they deem appropriate, on the progress of the peace process.

Convinced that the adoption of mutual confidence-building measures is essential for promoting a climate of dialogue and harmony, they especially welcome the talks held between the Foreign Ministers of Ecuador and Peru and also the specific proposals for preventing the risks of an arms race in the region. Accordingly, the parties can continue to count on the ongoing efforts of the guarantor countries, including efforts to secure the necessary cooperation of the international community.

Desiring to see the common ground reached at Lima expanded further, they emphasize the importance of the next meeting, to be held at Quito on 22 and 23 February, between Foreign Ministers Galo Leoro Franco and Francisco Tudela, with the participation of senior officials of the guarantor countries.

Aware of the responsibilities and expectations for the consolidation of peace, the guarantor countries are convinced that all the parties will make every effort to ensure that further decisive steps are taken to launch the negotiations on technical, legal and substantive issues with all due speed and determination, so that 1996 will be remembered as the year of peace.

The ongoing faithful compliance with the commitments made in the Itamaraty Peace Declaration has created unique conditions for finding a definitive solution to the conflict. Firm in this conviction, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the guarantor countries will continue to cooperate, determinedly and confidently, in ensuring the full implementation of the Itamaraty Peace Declaration, in keeping with our peoples' aspirations for peaceful coexistence and prosperity.

Brasilia, 16 February 1996